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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF HILL,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

March, 1855.

CONCORD:

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of the town of Hill, for the year 1854, charge themselves with the following items, viz :

1854, March. Cash received of Albert Blake,

Treasurer, for 1853,.....	\$266 81
Received of Literary Fund,.....	61 77
of the town of Henniker,	23 17
of State Treasurer, Railroad tax,	88 88
Taxes committed to the Collector,.....	2,411 30

	\$2,851 93

Which is accounted for as follows :

Outstanding claims prior to March, 1854.

Paid Albert Blake, services as treasurer, 1853,	\$10 55
Moses Sanborn, for support of Sarah Sanborn,	27 50
Haven Parker, do. Martha Colby,.	16 75
Amos Dickerson, 2d, do. Joseph Cram, .	19 50
Dimond Shaw, do. Rachel Stevens,	12 21
Clark Merrill, do. County pauper,	1 50
J. M. Currier, do. do.	5 00
Caleb Flanders, do. Anna Avery,..	21 00
Amos J. Simpson, do. Thomas Wells,.	25 00
George W. Murray, services as superintend-	
ing school committee, for 1853,.....	25 75
Christian Baptist Society,	21 13
Methodist Society,	26 39
John L. Mead, making coffin for Conner boy,	3 50
Darwin Forbes, services as school committee,	4 00
Sewall Dickerson services as Auditor, 1853,.	1 00
Carr Huse, do. do.	1 00
Wells Forbes, do. do.	1 00

	\$222 78

Town Expenses for 1854.

Paid County School Commissioner,	\$9	89
Merriam & Merrill, for books,	10	25
G. W. Dearborn, for cleaning town house,		67
William Hersey, enrolling militia,	1	00
Stephen Hersey, do.	1	00
O. H. Jasper, services as sup. sch. com., .	32	50
G. W. Sumner, do. do.	9	25
Rufus Fellows, do. do.	4	75
David E. Everett, enrolling militia,	2	00
Pike & Barnard, advice and services in Murray case,	8	75
J. P. Colby, for collecting taxes,	38	63
Deputy Secretary of State,	1	50
Rufus Fellows, services as town clerk,	18	20
Carr Huse, board of Select'n and Audit's,		8 00
Carr Huse, services as Selectman, horse hire, and cash paid out,	36	83
Wells Forbes, do. do.	31	50
Gilman Hersey, do. do.	23	84
Auditors services,		3 00
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		\$240 56

Support of the Poor.

Paid Bradbury Morrison, for stove,	\$2	50
Dr. R. Fellows, as physician,	14	43
E. W Mason, assistance for J. Conner, . . .	6	34
Wells Forbes, for support of Mrs. Colby, .	10	00
Rachel Stevens, for her support,	20	00
Parker & Little, goods for Joel Conner, . .	4	28
E. G. Bartlett, assistance Joel Conner, . .	2	50
M. Sanborn, for support of Sarah Sanborn,		53 50
Jere. Carleton, do. Timo'y Carleton,		55 00
E. G. Bartlett, do. Joseph Cram, ..		46 00
town of Enfield, do. Samuel Stevens,		15 00
Dr. Ira S. Chase, as physician, J. Conner,		7 00

Paid Wells Forbes, support of Anna Avery,...	4 50
Caleb Flanders, do. do. . . .	29 87
Mary Clay, do. Molly Stevens, .	48 00
Follansbee & Estabrook, support of Samuel Favor,	78 00
M. J. Morrill, support of Martha Colby,..	46 00
John P. Colby, support of Moses and Esther Rano,	75 00
Division No. 343, goods for the poor,	5 98
A. J. Simpson, support of Thomas Wells,	35 00
Michael Davis, " John Favor,..	25 50
Parker & Little, robe for Conner boy,....	72

	\$585 62

Parsonage Money.

Paid S. U. Dearborn, for Christian Bap. Society,	5 21
" " Freewill " " "	20 66

	\$25 87

Roads and Bridges.

Paid Samuel U. Dearborn, building road near Geo. W. Murray's,.....	\$74 50
David Trumbull, work on bridge, &c.,....	9 00
R. Dearborn, timber for and work on bridge,	3 61
Jeremiah Ward, " "	7 20
Gilman Hersey, work on roads and bridges,	10 00
Ira Morgan, building bridge,.....	32 21
Amos Hadley, timber for bridge,	13 80
Joseph Cass, " "	18 09
Jacob Cass, build'g bridge near C. Merrill's,	27 00
Moses Favor, work on road,.....	1 60
S. U. Dearborn, "	4 23
Sewell Brown, work on bridge,.....	5 26
Hiram Estabrooks, "	2 75
Moses Bartlett, "	4 00
John K. Flanders, "	5 00
A. K. Davis,	2 00

Paid Peter Loverin, work on bridge,.....	2 00
Peter Hersey, "	6 54
Wm. Hersey, "	3 84
Stephen Hersey, "	1 50
J. M. Currier, work on road,.....	2 51
E. T. Eastman, "	1 68
Almond Farnum, "	1 68
Samuel Gile, "	84
C. K. Gile, "	1 67
S. M. Currier, "	42
D. W. Clough, "	42
Moses Colby, "	83
E. R. Colby, "	84
John Austin, "	84
Jona. Roberts, "	1 67
Amos Dickerson, 2d, plank for and repairing culvert,.....	3 37
M. W. Sargent, for plow on road,.....	2 00
Daniel Mowe, breaking roads in Mar'h '54,	1 67
Almond Farnum, " "	1 67
C. K. Gile, " "	1 51
B. S. Stevens, work on road,.....	3 58
Rowell Colby, "	84
David Sawyer, "	84
John Swett, "	84
Levi Follansbee, "	84
Jonathan Currier, "	84
John Hastings, breaking roads,.....	1 00
Jacob Quimby, "	5 45
J. R. Rowell, "	2 50
William Hersey, "	3 80
Geo. W. Sargent, "	35
E. S. Rolfe, work on road,.....	3 20
Jeremiah Carleton, "	1 28
Moses Bartlett, plank for bridge,.....	3 23
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	\$286 34

Paid the several School Districts :

Paid School District No. 1,.....	\$156 35
" " " 2,.....	30 71
" " " 3,.....	59 63
" " " 4,.....	66 10
" " " 5,.....	59 23
" " " 6,.....	62 38
" " " 7,.....	36 70
" " " 8,.....	32 61
" " " 9,.....	35 24
" " " 10,.....	43 37
" " " 11,.....	6 91
	————— \$589 23

Paid State tax,.....	\$170 80
County tax,.....	304 00
school house tax, Dist. No. 3,..	163 00
abatement of taxes,.....	42 34
non resid't high'y tax work'd out,	3 99
	————— \$684 13

RECAPIULATION.

Am't of money rec'd by Treasurer, \$2,851 93

Which is accounted for as follows ;

State tax,.....	\$170 80
County tax,.....	304 00
School districts,.....	589 23
Outstanding claims,.....	222 78
Town expenses,	240 56
Building and repairing highways and bridges,.....	286 34
Support of the poor,	585 62
Parsonage money,	25 87
Abatement of taxes.	42 34
School house tax, Dist. No. 3,..	163 00
Non resident highway taxes work- ed out,	3 99
Due from Collector,.....	214 20
Cash in hand of Treasurer,....	8 10
	————— \$2,851 93

Outstanding Claims against the Town.

Due S. D. Johnson, on note,.....	\$234 74
S. U. Dearborn, "	103 28
" " "	70 41
Calvin Campbell, on note,	68 30
Outstanding bills,	75 00
	— \$551 73

Due the Town.

Due from A. Caswell, Collector,....	\$ 67 00
from C. R. Norcross,.....	5 70
from Wilson Colby,.....	2 50
Available means in real estate,	50 00
Due from County,	35 00
from Sanbornton,	15 45
from J. Flanders, Collector, ..	44 50
from J. P. Colby, Collector,....	214 20
	— \$434 45
Leaving a balance due from the town,	\$117 28

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CARR HUSE, } Selectmen
WELLS FORBES, } of
GILMAN HERSEY, } Hill.

The undersigned have carefully examined the foregoing accounts, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

I. T. PARKER,
S. D. JOHNSON, } Auditors.
PETER HERSEY,

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the Selectmen of Hill:

The Committee appointed to superintend the schools of this town present the following REPORT :

The schools have been, for the most part, quiet and useful. The teachers, though mostly young, have been generally diligent and devoted to their work.

Some muttering—like the surly voice of distant thunders—have been heard from doting and ill advised parents, as usual ; but these are things of course in some Districts and cause no alarm. We believe our schools are slowly progressive. With more fostering care from parents and friends their improvement would be much more rapid.

DISTRICT No. 1.—The SUMMER TERM was divided ; was kept eleven weeks by Misses JANE S., and SARAH B. MORRISON. Both branches were examined. The upper one was fair ; but the teacher of the lower lacked the *aptness to teach* so requisite in that employment.

The FALL TERM was taught by Miss MARY A. PRESCOTT. A full school of fifty four scholars, but having an industrious and persevering teacher, it was a useful school. Some parents took their children away, lest they should be corrected. The fault was their own, the injury their children's. It was kept nine weeks—a good school.

The WINTER TERM of eleven weeks was taught by Mr. L. W. PRESCOTT. It was the most useful school the town has enjoyed for several years.

DISTRICT No. 2.—One term of eight weeks, in the winter, taught, except the first week, by Miss MARY A. WOOLSON. A good and efficient teacher—school made good progress for the time.

DISTRICT No. 3.—One term of eleven weeks in the winter, taught by Miss JACKSON of Danbury. A successful teacher, the school made great improvement.

DISTRICT No. 4.—SUMMER, taught by Miss JANE BROWN. Good order and faithful instruction were the leading traits—a good school.

WINTER TERM of nine weeks was taught by Mr. E. H. RUSSELL—a model school, in respect to order, the scholars also, made good progress in study.

DISTRICT No. 5.—SUMMER TERM, six weeks, taught by Miss BLAISDELL—a patient and successful teacher—a good school.

WINTER TERM taught by Miss MARY E. DANFORTH—nearly a failure—lack of patience in teaching and dignity in governing; some parents to blame.

DISTRICT No. 6.—SUMMER TERM taught by Miss ABBY A. CROSS, five weeks. Miss CROSS was a good scholar and an active teacher. School was not examined at the close, but started well, closed unexpectedly. The committee believe some persons in the district are at fault in the matter, and that the teacher was not well used.

WINTER TERM taught by Miss ABBY H. FOLLANSBEE,—thirteen weeks—a teacher of experience and ability, well known in town,—kept a good school.

DISTRICT NO. 7.—SUMMER and FALL TERMS taught by Miss S. ANN WELLS, school very small and made but little improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 8.—Kept in the FALL by Miss HELEN M. PARKER. A very good school of $11\frac{1}{2}$ weeks. Miss PARKER will make a good teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 9.—SUMMER TERM taught by Miss LORINDA ROWELL—Made good progress for the time, teacher labored hard to make the principles of education plain, rules thoroughly taught and well applied, order good.

WINTER TERM of six weeks taught by MR. J. A. GEORGE. School gave indications of much industry,—good progress, more however, in learning, than applying rules, which is attributed to the shortness of the term, order good.

DISTRICT NO. 10.—Kept in the FALL ten weeks, by Miss ADA M. RILEY. Some trouble,—the fault of inconsiderate parents,—an injury to the school, to the young lady teaching it, and a benefit to nobody. The school is considered fair.

REMARKS.

The School House in District No. 3, has been repaired and considerably improved. Several other Houses very much need repairs.

Our Teachers the past year, have, generally, been of the right kind—talented and accomplished in their studies, as well as possessing a decided taste for their work. The aggregate character of the Teachers has been above the last year. Some have been of a lower order than any last year, but most of them are decidedly superior.

The same is true, of course, of the Schools themselves.—While some of them have been poorer than any last year; they have, we think, on the whole been improved. Several of them have been of a superior order; Improvement in study, has in some cases been very great, while in some other cases, improvement is looked for in vain.

It is of the first importance to the success of our schools, that there be an active sympathy between the parents and the Teachers. In some cases a low prejudice exists against the teacher on account of name, connections, or something of which he or she is equally innocent, and this is allowed to enter in and to destroy the school. In some cases parents interfere with the Rules and regulations of the school-room. No teacher can be trusted to do his own work in his own way—with the advice of the committee. Order and discipline are prominent points of attack. The teacher is made to feel that he is an offence to the district. He must make war against both parents and children. Now, if this parental interference were well intended, wisely and kindly directed, it would not only be acceptable, but useful. It would be regarded not as enmity, but as friendship.—It would be received in the same spirit. Let it become an ac-

tive sympathy, let the teacher be treated as a friend, a helper in the great work of "teaching the young idea how to shoot," of training our children for usefulness and happiness, for life and for death—to fill well their place in the family, the walks of business, the bustle of trade or the calls of the State. The true teacher is our friend ; let him be had in esteem as such.

Parents should use all diligence to cause their children to attend school. Truant boys are apt to place themselves beyond the reach of the teacher. Place them within his reach, then if he does not train them, let it stand to his account. But charge him with no deficiencies which naturally and properly belong to yourselves. Parents should show a positive interest in having their children at School, and no more of that negative interest which orders them to school, but never knows nor cares, where they go nor what they learn.

We have to call attention once more to the School Register. Some teachers are very inattentive to this part of their duty. Our portion of money from the State depends upon the reports drawn up from these Registers. No teacher can claim his wages until he has made a return of his Register, properly filled out, to the Superintending School Committee. Let the selectmen see to this, since the Prudential Committee will not ; and give no orders for money until they have evidence that the contract has been fulfilled. When the Superintending Committee does the work, for which the town has paid the teacher, the town has it to pay for twice. No Register has been received from District No. 3 ; one is lacking from No. 5 ; none received from No. 7 ; and many that have been returned are only partially filled out. When we have no Register we must follow last year's report, which of course cannot be accurate for this year.

O. H. JASPER,	}	Sup. Com. of Schools.
G. W. SUMNER,		
RUFUS FELLOWS,		

HILL, March 13, 1855.